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1 1. (Amended) A file system for storing data comprising:
2 a plurality of storage devices, each storage device operative to store
3 at least one copy of at least one file;
4 at least one location server operative to map a file identifier for each
5 file into the location of each copy of the file represented by the file identifier; and
6 at least one name server operative to map a file name to the file
7 identifier referenced by the file name, each name server physically separate from the
8 at least one location server.

1 4. (Amended) A file system as in claim 1 wherein each location
2 server is further operative to store metadata associated with each file identifier.

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1 5. (Amended) A file system as in claim 1 wherein at least one
2 location server is on a first computer system and at least one name server is on a
3 second computer system in communication with the first computer system.

1 6. (Amended) A file system as in claim 1 wherein the at least one
2 name server is a plurality of name servers, at least one of the plurality of name
3 servers operating under a first file access standard and at least one of the plurality of
4 the name servers operating under a second file access standard different from the first
5 file access standard.

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1 16. (Amended) A file system for storing data comprising:
2 a plurality of storage devices, each storage device operative to store
3 at least one copy of at least one file;
4 at least one location database comprising a map between a file
5 identifier for each file and location information for each copy of the file represented
6 by the file identifier;

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- 7 at least one name database comprising a map between a file name and
8 the file identifier referenced by the file name, each name database physically separate
9 from the at least one location database; and
10 at least one client operative to
11 (a) request a file identifier corresponding to a requested file name,
12 (b) receive the file identifier mapped to the requested file name,
13 (c) request location information corresponding to the received file
14 identifier,
15 (d) receive location information mapped to the received file
16 identifier, and
17 (e) access data using the location information.
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